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JOHN BREAUX

LOUISIANA

MAJORITY CHIEF DEPUTY WHIP

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COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

FINANCE

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

WASHINGTON OFFICE (202) 224-4623

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 25, 1993

ONE AMERICAN PLACE, SUITE 2030 BATON ROUGE, LA 70825 (504) 382–2050

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> CENTRAL LOUISIANA: (318) 487-8445

Ms. Lauren J. Belzin Office of Legislative Affairs Federal Communications Commission, Room 808 1919 M Street, N.W. Washington, D.C.

Dear Ms. Belzin:

RECEIVED

AUG 2 0 1993

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

I have been contacted by C.W. Layton of Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Mr. Layton has provided me with FEREN COMMUNICATIONS CO copy of his letter to the Federal Communications Commission regarding his concerns about Baton Rouge CableVision rates.

Please investigate the enclosed information sent to me and provide me with a report. Your reply may be forwarded to the attention of Guy R. Mayer.

Thank you for your attention and assistance.

Sincerely,

United States Senator

JB:qrm Enclosure

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

May 17, 1993

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The Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, NW Washington, DC 20554

I wish to lodge a formal complaint against CableVision of Baton Rouge (CVBR). It is my contention that they are not operating in the best interest of the public, that they are engaging in arbitrary and capricious pricing of services and in discriminatory pricing designed to limit low-end service customers.

I enclose a copy of a direct mail solicitation I recently received from CVBR. It offers, "A special savings on Cable TV (italics mine) and HBO/Cinemax ... Installation is only \$19.95

Now \$9.95...."

When I attempted to avail myself of this order and specified I only wanted <u>basic</u> cable service, CVBR advised me that basic service was not included in the offer and that the cost for its installation was \$60.00, plus one month's fee in advance.

I have no problem paying a reasonable installation fee. I have no problem paying even six months' fees in advance. But it is patently an arbitrary, capricious and discriminatory practice to set installation fees for basic service over 700% higher than that for premium service installation.

CVBR obviously desires to circumvent and/or limit their adherence to the recent regulatory act of the US Congress. I maintain that in doing so they have ceased to operate in the public interest and should no longer be permitted a license to operate in the Baton Rouge market.

Sincerely

C. W. Layton

2027 Kleinert Avenue

Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806-6711

cc:

Hon. J. Bennett Johnston US Senate One American Place

Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Hon. John Breaux US Senate 501 Magazine Street New Orleans, LA 70130 Hon. Richard Baker US House of Representatives 5757 Corporate Boulevard Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Hon. Mary Frey Eaton
East Baton Rouge City-Parish Councilperson
P.O. Box 1471
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Louisiana Department of Justice Public Protection Division Office of Consumer Protection 625 North 4th Street Baton Rouge, LA 70802

FCC Regional Office Suite 320 Koger Center - Gwinnett 3575 Koger Boulevard Duluth, Georgia 30136

FCC Field Office Room 1170 9330 LBJ Freeway Dallas, Texas 75043

Cablevision of Baton Rouge 5428 Florida Boulevard Baton Rouge, LA 70806

Other Interested Parties

special savings on Cable TV and HBO*/Cinemax* plus a FREE Fuji Quicksnap Single-Use Camera!

BULK RATE U. S. POSTAGE PAID PERMIT # 935 BATON ROUGE, LA

nd . . . if that's not enough to make you smile, ere's a very special offer from CableVision.

15-31C07

287336- 1

• Installation is only \$1985 Now \$9.95

• First month HBO and/or Cinemax for Half Price.

TV VIEWER
2027 KLEINERT AV

LA 70806

• FREE Processing with your FREE Quicksnap.

• FREE Remote Control for one month

• FREE Cable Guide for one month.

In Baton Rouge call

923-3500

Cable Vision

urry, Offer Ends Friday May 14th!

camera per household with new subscription to Basic Cable and HBO and/or Cinemax. Offer is available to new residential customers on a standard primary at in participating TCI and TCI-affiliated cabled areas only. Additional equipment and converter charges may apply. You must subscribe to Basic Service to ive premium channels, Expanded Basic, Plus or DMX service. Programming, packages, levels of service and rates are subject to change. Certain restrictions apply. State and local tax, franchise fees and/or copyright fees may apply.

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